

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) In a host system that exists within ~~In a network system that includes the host system interposed between~~ including a cedent and one or more assumers, wherein a negotiation for reinsurance of a risk is conducted through various stages of negotiation between the cedent and the one or more assumers, a method for the host system facilitating the negotiation for reinsurance of a risk, comprising:

the host system receiving a submission of a risk for reinsurance from a cedent, the submission including a risk record describing the origin of the risk for which reinsurance is being sought, the risk record constructed from cedent collected information entered by the cedent into the system based on the cedent's association with the risk;

the host system conveying the submission to selected assumers of reinsurance risks;

the host system receiving one or more responses to the submission from selected assumers to whom the submission was conveyed, the received responses indicative of one or more assumers that are interested in negotiating for ~~or concluding~~ reinsurance of the risk;

the host system conveying the received responses to the cedent;

the host system receiving at least one negotiation a ~~reply from the cedent in response to the conveyed responses from the selected assumers for a received response from an assumer interested in negotiating for reinsurance of the risk, the reply altering the risk record for the submission with respect to the assumer;~~ and

the host system storing the submission, the one or more responses and the at least one additional negotiation at the host system;

the host system providing an interface for viewing a negotiation history that includes the stored submission, the one or more responses and the at least one additional negotiation that are exchanged during the various stages of the negotiation and that are stored at the host system; and

the host system concluding the negotiation such that the risk is either bound or the negotiation is terminated without binding the risk.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising allowing additional responses from the one or more assumers necessary to continue or conclude the negotiation.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 further comprising allowing additional replies from the cedent to one or more assumers necessary to continue or conclude the negotiation with each assumer.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 3 further comprising monitoring the stages of the negotiation including the submission, the responses from the one or more assumers, and the replies from the cedent.

5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4 further comprising providing an interface for viewing the stages of the negotiation and allowing input of the submission, responses, and replies.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the additional replies from the cedent comprises tailored replies responsive to one or more responses from one or more assumers.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 6 wherein the tailored reply provided to one assumer is isolated from tailored reply provided to another assumer such that one cedent can privately conduct multiple unique threads of negotiation with multiple assumers so as to isolate negotiations with different assumers from one another.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 6 wherein the reply provided to one assumer is not isolated from tailored reply provided to another assumer such that one cedent can conduct a negotiation with multiple assumers simultaneously to build consensus and obtained reinsurance capacity by syndication between multiple assumers.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein concluding a negotiation comprises binding reinsurance of the risk submitted by the cedent.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein upon binding reinsurance of a risk the assumer offers the risk to one or more assumers of reinsurance risk in a reinsurance market subject to the terms of the agreement with the cedent.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the act of conveying a submission to one or more potential assumers of reinsurance risk comprises conveying the submission to all of the potential assumers identified by the cedent as assumers to whom conveyance of the submission is required.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the act of conveying a submission to one or more assumers of reinsurance risk comprises conveying the submission to one or more of the assumers identified by the cedent as assumers to whom conveyance of the submission is permitted.

13-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) In a cedent system that exists within a network system that includes a host system interposed between the cedent and one or more assumers, wherein a negotiation for reinsurance of a risk is conducted through various stages of negotiation between the cedent and the one or more assumers, a method for the cedent system monitoring negotiations for reinsurance of a risk, comprising the acts of:

the cedent system submitting information for reinsurance of a risk, the information for reinsurance of the risk including a risk record describing the origin of the risk for which reinsurance is being sought, the risk record constructed from cedent collected information entered by a cedent into the cedent system based on the cedent's association with the risk;

the cedent system receiving one or more responses to the submission from one or more of the potential assumers to whom the submission was conveyed, the received responses indicative of one or more assumers that are interested in negotiating for reinsurance of the risk, wherein each response comprises one of an offer, a counteroffer, a quote, a plurality of alternative quotes, a refusal to quote, or an acceptance of a request to bind;

the cedent system submitting ~~a at least one negotiation reply~~ to the response from one or more of the potential assumers ~~wherein the reply comprises one of a resubmission of the risk for reinsurance, an acceptance of a quote, a request to bind a risk, a counteroffer, a refusal of a quote, or an offer based on the respective responses from the one or more of the potential assumers;~~

the cedent system allowing additional responses and submitting additional replies necessary to continue or conclude the negotiation;

the cedent system monitoring the information and replies submitted and the responses received; and

the cedent system ~~maintaining-receiving access to an interface for viewing a stored negotiation history that includes the submitted information, the one or more responses and at least one negotiation reply and replies submitted and the responses received.~~

23. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the act of submitting information for reinsurance of a risk further comprises the act of classifying policy information of the risk to be reinsured.

24. (Original) The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the act of classifying policy information further comprises the act of selecting a policy class.

25. (Original) The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the act of classifying the policy information further comprises the act of selecting a policy type.

26. (Original) The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the act of classifying the policy information further comprises selecting a template for inputting policy information.

27. (Original) The method as recited in claim 23 wherein the act of classifying policy information of the risk to be reinsured comprises:

- selecting a policy class;
- selecting a policy type from a subset of policy types within the policy class;
- selecting a template for inputting policy information, the template tailored to the policy type; and
- inputting policy information into the selected template.

28. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the act of submitting information for reinsurance of a risk further comprises the act of classifying reinsurance being sought.

29. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the act of classifying reinsurance being sought comprises selecting a reinsurance type.

30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the act of classifying reinsurance being sought further comprises selecting perils for which reinsurance is sought.

31. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the act of classifying reinsurance being sought further comprises selecting a currency for the reinsurance being sought.

32. (Original) The method as recited in 28 wherein the act of classifying reinsurance being sought comprises:

- selecting a reinsurance type;
- selecting perils on which reinsurance is sought; and
- selecting a currency for the reinsurance being sought.

33. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the act of submitting information for reinsurance of a risk includes inputting policy information of the insurance policy for which reinsurance is being sought.

34. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the act of submitting information for reinsurance of a risk includes inputting underwriting information for the policy for which reinsurance is being sought.

35. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the act of submitting information for reinsurance of a risk includes inputting preferred terms of reinsurance being requested.

36. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the act of submitting information for reinsurance of a risk further comprises attaching a file to the risk information to be submitted.

37. (Currently Amended) In an assumer system that exists within a network system that includes a host system interposed between a cedent and the assumer system, wherein a negotiation for reinsurance of a risk is conducted through various stages of negotiation between the cedent and the assumer system, a method for the assumer system monitoring negotiations for reinsurance of a risk, comprising the acts of:

the assumer system receiving a submission for a risk of reinsurance from a cedent, the submission including a risk record describing the origin of the risk for which reinsurance is being sought, the risk record constructed from cedent collected information entered by a cedent based on the cedent's association with the risk;

the assumer system providing a response to the submission from the cedent wherein the response comprises one of an offer, a counteroffer, a quote, a plurality of alternative quotes, a refusal to quote, a request for additional information, or an acceptance of a request to bind, the response indicative of an interest in negotiating for or concluding reinsurance of the risk;

the assumer system receiving the submission of at least one negotiation a-reply from the cedent ~~wherein the reply comprises one of a resubmission of the risk for reinsurance, an acceptance of a quote, a request to bind a risk, a counteroffer, a refusal of a quote, additional information, or an offer based on the contents of the previous response;~~

the assumer system providing additional responses and allowing additional replies necessary to continue or conclude the negotiation;

the assumer system monitoring the information exchanged during the various stages of the negotiation, wherein the information exchanged includes submissions of risks received, submission of replies received, and responses provided to the submissions during negotiations for reinsurance of a risk; and

the assumer system ~~maintaining~~ receiving access to an interface for facilitating the negotiation, the interface ~~allowing-viewing~~ providing access to a stored negotiation history, including information exchanged during the various stages of the negotiation and that includes at least the submission for a risk, the response to the submission and the at least one negotiation reply ~~and allowing the exchange of additional information.~~

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37 further comprising the act of the assumer system submitting an endorsement to the cedent to request an alteration of the terms agreed upon by the parties during the negotiation.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38 further comprising the act of the assumer system receiving from the cedent a reply to the submission of the endorsement wherein the reply comprises either an acceptance or a rejection of the altered terms of the agreement.



40. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for implementing, in a network system, that includes a cedent and one or more assumers and also includes a processing device for receiving and conveying data, a method for facilitating negotiations for reinsurance of a risk, the computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable medium carrying computer-executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 1, ~~wherein the computer-executable instructions, when executed, cause the processing device to perform the acts of:~~

~~receiving at the processing device input from a cedent, the input representative of a risk record describing the origin of the risk for which reinsurance is being sought, the input entered by the cedent into the processing device based on the cedent's association with the risk;~~

~~conveying the reply to one or more potential assumers;~~

~~receiving at the processing device a response from one or more potential assumers to whom input from the cedent was conveyed, the received responses indicative of one or more potential assumers that are interested in negotiating for or concluding reinsurance of the risk;~~

~~allowing additional input from the cedent necessary to continue or conclude the negotiation, including altering the risk record with respect to specified potential assumers based on the responses from those specified potential assumers to thereby negotiate with the specified potential assumers; and~~

~~providing an interface that permits users to view input and responses provided at various stages of the negotiation.~~

41. (Original) The method of claim 40 further comprising the act of requiring the cedent to take action with respect to a group of responses related to a given submission before continuing or concluding the negotiation.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein the act of requiring the cedent to take action with respect to a group of responses comprises requiring a cedent to decline all outstanding offers before binding a risk.

43. (Original) The method of claim 40 further comprising the act of maintaining a file for holding a cedent's unassumed submissions and assumed reinsurance risks wherein the file permits the cedent to access information related to the unassumed submissions and the assumed reinsurance risks.

44. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein concluding the negotiation such that the risk is either bound or the negotiation is terminated without binding the risk comprises iteratively changing the state of the negotiation between the cedent and the assumer interested in negotiating for reinsurance of the risk based on the content of further responses and replies as the further responses and replies are exchanged.

45. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein receiving one or more responses to the submission from selected assumers to whom the submission was conveyed reinsurance of the risk comprises receiving a response from an assumer that requests additional information from the cedent and wherein conveying the received responses to the cedent comprises conveying the request for additional information to the cedent.

46. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein receiving a reply from the cedent for a received response from an assumer interested in negotiating for reinsurance of the risk comprises an act of receiving a request from the cedent, the request requesting more information from the assumer interested in negotiating for reinsurance of the risk.

47. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein receiving a reply from the cedent for a received response from an assumer interested in negotiating for reinsurance of the risk comprises an act of receiving a counteroffer from the cedent.

48. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further includes the host sending a notification to at least one of the selected assumers or the cedent in the form of an email having an embedded URL to a website of the host system and that links to data concerning the negotiation.

49. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the stored negotiation history is stored at the host system.

50. (New) A method as recited in claim 38, wherein the stored negotiation history is stored at the host system.

51. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface includes a selectable display object which is linked to the stored negotiation history.